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In the claims:

For the Examiner's convenience, all pending claims are presented below with changes shown. Please cancel claims 4 and 13 without prejudice.

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

decoding an original instruction into a complementary-predicated pair of instructions by sending a hint via a trace cache to a register renaming circuit, the complementary-predicated pair of instructions including a predicate-positive instruction and a predicate-negative move instruction;

sequencing the predicate-positive instruction and the predicate-negative move instruction for out-of-order execution;

renaming, by the register renaming circuit, both a first destination register of the predicate-positive instruction and a second destination register of the predicate-negative move instruction to a same physical register, wherein the hint ~~to permit the~~ permits renaming the first destination register and the second destination register to the same physical register; and

retiring either the predicate-positive instruction or the predicate-negative move instruction responsive to a predicate value associated with both instructions.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the predicate-negative move instruction is responsive to a complement of the predicate value.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Canceled)
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising squashing the predicate-negative move instruction when the predicate-positive instruction executes before the predicate-negative move instruction and the predicate value is true.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the squashing occurs before the predicate-negative move instruction executes.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising squashing the predicate-positive instruction when the predicate-negative move instruction executes before the predicate-positive instruction and the predicate value is false.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the squashing occurs before the predicate-positive instruction executes.
10. (Currently Amended) A processor, comprising:
  - a decode circuit to decode an original instruction into a complementary-predicated pair of instructions by sending a hint via a trace cache, the complementary-predicated pair of instructions including a predicate-positive instruction and a predicate-negative move instruction;
  - a sequencer to permit out-of-order execution of the predicate-positive instruction and the predicate-negative move instruction;
  - a register renaming circuit to receive the hint and, in response to the hint, to map a first destination register of the predicate-positive instruction to a physical register, and to map a second destination register of the predicate-negative move instruction to the same physical

register, wherein the hint ~~to permit the~~ permits renaming the first destination register and the second destination register to the same physical register; and

a retirement circuit to update the physical register with a result of either the predicate-positive instruction or the predicate-negative move instruction responsive to a predicate value associated with both instructions.

11. (Previously Presented) The processor of claim 10, wherein the predicate-negative move instruction is responsive to a complement of the predicate value.
12. (Canceled)
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Previously Presented) The processor of claim 10, wherein the retirement circuit squashes the predicate-negative move instruction when the predicate-positive instruction executes before the predicate-negative move instruction and the predicate value is true.
16. (Previously Presented) The processor of claim 10, wherein the retirement circuit squashes the predicate-positive instruction when the predicate-negative move instruction executes before the predicate-positive instruction and the predicate value is false.
17. (Previously Presented) The processor of claim 10, further comprising execution units to execute the predicate-positive instruction and the predicate-negative move instruction in parallel.

18. (Currently Amended) A processor, comprising:

means for decoding an original instruction into a complementary-predicated pair of instructions by sending a hint via a trace cache to a register renaming circuit, the complementary-predicated pair of instructions including a predicate-positive instruction and a predicate-negative move instruction;

means for sequencing the predicate-positive instruction and the predicate-negative move instruction for out-of-order execution;

means for renaming, by the register renaming circuit, both a first destination register of the predicate-positive instruction and a second destination register of the predicate-negative move instruction to a same physical register, wherein the hint ~~to permit the~~ permits renaming the first destination register and the second destination register to the same physical register; and

means for retiring either the predicate-positive instruction or the predicate-negative move instruction responsive to a predicate value associated with both instructions.

19. (Previously Presented) The processor of claim 18, wherein the predicate-negative move instruction is responsive to a complement of the predicate value.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) The processor of claim 18, further comprising means for squashing the predicate-negative move instruction when the predicate-positive instruction executes before the predicate-negative move instruction and the predicate value is true.

23. (Previously Presented) The processor of claim 18, further comprising means for squashing the predicate-positive instruction when the predicate-negative move instruction executes before the predicate-positive instruction and the predicate value is false.

24. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a processor, including:

a decode circuit to decode an original instruction into a complementary-predicated pair of instructions by sending a hint via a trace cache, the complementary-predicated pair of instructions including a predicate-positive instruction and a predicate-negative move instruction;

a sequencer to permit out-of-order execution of the predicate-positive instruction and the predicate-negative move instruction;

a register renaming circuit to receive the hint and, in response to the hint, to map a first destination register of the predicate-positive instruction to a physical register, and to map a second destination register of the predicate-negative move instruction to the same physical register, wherein the hint ~~to permit the~~ permits renaming the first destination register and the second destination register to the same physical register; and

a retirement circuit to update the physical register with a result of either the predicate-positive instruction or the predicate-negative move instruction responsive to a predicate value associated with both instructions;

a bus to couple the processor to input/output devices; and

a communications device coupled to the bus.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the predicate-negative move instruction is responsive to a complement of the predicate value.
26. (Canceled)
27. (Canceled)
28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the retirement circuit squashes the predicate-negative move instruction when the predicate-positive instruction executes before the predicate-negative move instruction and the predicate value is true.
29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the retirement circuit squashes the predicate-positive instruction when the predicate-negative move instruction executes before the predicate-positive instruction and the predicate value is false.